

Alumni and Friends Magazine



Prepared for Success

RANKED BY
U.S. News
& WORLD REPORT
#5 IN THE NATION
*“Best Graduate
Online Education Program”*

RANKED BY
U.S. News
& WORLD REPORT
#9 IN THE
NATION
*“Best Graduate
Online Nursing Program”*



Graceland Forever HERITAGE COLLECTION

The Alumni Board is excited to partner with Sticks to develop the Graceland Forever Heritage Collection to support the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Each piece of the Heritage Collection contains artwork that encompasses all that we love about Graceland University – the scenic landscape, traditions, activities, athletics and superior academic offerings that embody Graceland.

To purchase pieces of the Graceland Forever Heritage Collection, stop by the Alumni Programs office on the Lamoni campus or visit the Graceland website.

www.graceland.edu/GUSTicksCollection

Horizons

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

Alumni and Friends Magazine

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Prepared for Success

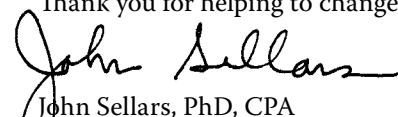
As I entered the football stadium anticipating the Homecoming game I heard someone call my name. When I turned around, there stood Terrence (not his real name) who gave me a bear hug. Terrence was from the inner city and had played on the football team. His major was biology. Terrence wanted to share that he had been accepted into pharmacy school. Terrence was going to be a doctor of pharmacy!

In this issue of *Horizons* we are focusing on “Prepared for Success.” You will read about some of our graduates and what they have accomplished. If there was more space I would love to share with you many, many stories. Each personal story of our students is precious to me, just like Terrence’s story. His success will have a ripple effect across his whole family and he will be a role model for success.

Graceland is a special place for me. While Graceland is a first tier academic institution, it also is a caring community that nurtures personal growth, and molds and shapes the whole person. We strive to weave Christian values into the lives of our students so they can experience being fully accepted and loved for who they are as a person. Our passion truly is student success.

Every year it is a privilege to engage with young people and watch them grow and mature into responsible, caring adults who make a difference in the communities they serve. These few highlighted alumni are examples of how academic excellence in a caring environment can help to change the world.

Thank you for helping to change the world.


John Sellars, PhD, CPA
President, Graceland University



“Always offering a helping hand and treating coworkers as family is a trait that we carried from Graceland into our professional lives.”

Graceland provides a foundation for student success that, in turn, allows alumni success. We have stories to tell!

Almost 15 years after graduating, Aleksandar (Aleks '00) and Elizabeta (Beti '00) Velevska Memca still find themselves upholding Graceland's values. Beti comments, "Always offering a helping hand and treating coworkers as family is a trait that we carried from Graceland into our professional lives. We can proudly say that in this crazy, competitive market we still keep the honesty and integrity GU is known for."

Aleks and Beti remember their beginnings at Graceland fondly, and feel the effort it took to get here from their home country of Macedonia was well worth it. Aleks was the first to decide on Graceland after applying for a scholarship through the SOROS Foundation in Macedonia. (The SOROS Foundation is one of a network of national foundations created by the international financier and philanthropist George Soros.) Aleks notes, "The college description was very appealing – a small college where professors work with students to make sure they are learning all they want to learn and exploring topics that pique their interest. This was a deciding factor in choosing Graceland."

Beti followed a semester later, after hearing about Aleks' positive experience. They both found that Graceland was just as good as it sounded, if not better. "We have stories where professors stayed with us all night to make sure we could resolve a particular issue. This type of personal professor investment is hard to get in bigger schools," explained Aleks.

Another attribute of Graceland that can't be found elsewhere is the "House" system and strong international program. Aleks was in Aaron House and Beti was in Hanthorne, and both took part in many

international program activities. "The 'House' activities concentrated on making life on campus fun," Beti notes. "The international program had activities that were helping foreigners understand and accept the U.S. culture, as well as helping with major problems the students were facing – financing, applying for a job and, for many, learning how to deal with not having family support close by." Events like these, and the community offered both by Graceland and the town of Lamoni, made it easier for Aleks and Beti to feel at home. Furthermore, despite having learned English in Macedonia, these events and the close-knit nature of the "House" system helped Aleks and Beti become accustomed to conversational English and popular slang.

"Graceland University, being a small college, makes things a lot easier for students but it does not compromise on the quality of work people need to do to

get a good education," concludes Beti. "We were constantly challenged educationally but we had great support from everyone."

Aleks and Beti graduated from Graceland in 2000, and have since gone on to become successful in their respective fields. After being introduced to the concept of IT consulting by Bob Ackerley during an Entrepreneurial Roundtable at Graceland, they knew what they wanted to do. Both were a part of the first iPhone launch, as they worked with the AT&T team that built the activation and self-registration systems. Beti is a Director with Perficient, where she manages three consulting practices: TIBCO, Informatica and Amazon Web Services. Aleks, after also working at Perficient, has recently founded and is the CTO of FYnderFY – The Professional Skills and Expertise Validation, Learning, Recruiting and Talent-Scoring Platform.



Aleks and Beti were prepared for success during their years at Graceland. The entrepreneurial spirit that these two honed on "the Hill," along with the enduring relationships founded on Graceland's values, set them on a course for unlimited success.

When Horizons staff asked Sue Bevington '89 to share her thoughts about Graceland's influence on her success, she readily responded with enthusiasm.

Why did you choose Graceland?

I believe I likely went to Graceland for two reasons. First was heritage. Some of the smartest people I knew and whom I respected most in my life had gone there, including my mother and grandmother. These were people who were wise, thoughtful and caring for not only themselves but the world around them, and I knew the education and experiences they received at Graceland had played a part in that. Secondly, at that point in my life, I was not certain of what I wanted to do or study, so to be in an environment that encouraged broad exploration was very appealing. While these may have been the reasons I went to Graceland for my freshman year, I stayed because I had a really good time! Fun was also part of the heritage. I remember my great aunt laughing and smiling as she recalled her friends and experiences. A favorite was her telling of racing out of class in Briggs Hall in the late afternoon so that she and her friends could get to town for pie a la mode and be back to campus in time for dinner!

What "House" were you in?

I was in Solah and loved it! The "House" system at Graceland is one of the truly unique and special things about the university. It provided me with an instant community to which I belonged. The community provided everything from learning how things operated at the university, to an incredibly strong support system, as well as serious fun. Eventually it also gave me leadership opportunities and lifelong friendships.

What significant preparation did Graceland provide you?

In a word, "access." I know that countless universities can provide great experiences, opportunities and education. The thing that differentiated Graceland to me was the access it provided to these things. The size of the university and the deep caring and commitment of the faculty and administration ensured that anyone could have access to a wide variety of experiences and opportunities. For me, this included student leadership during all four years, international travel and learning, the ability to participate in interesting research with a professor, daily access to professors, and students from all over the U.S. and world.

What do you do now that you can link back to "the Hill?"

While at Graceland, I completed a double major in psychology and business administration. Today I am in human resources, so the foundations that were built with my studies at Graceland are drawn on almost every day in what I do.

All of us, no matter what we do personally or professionally, will continue to face an increasingly complex set of options and environments. More than ever we see that innovation, creativity and new ideas happen more when we are able to bring together seemingly disparate and disconnected fields of study, ideas and pieces of knowledge. A liberal arts education like that at GU prepares all of us well to do just that.

In one of my upper division psychology courses I remember Dr. Patton telling us that education is too often focused on teaching students to find the right answers, when in reality what is most important is asking the right questions. I use that to this day. When I get stuck, I simply ask myself "What question haven't I asked?," "What question do I need the answer to?" or "What do I need to learn to find the best solution?"



Sue Bevington, Corporate Vice President of Human Resources for Microsoft, currently serves on the Graceland Board of Trustees. She is passionate about Graceland's liberal arts education providing pathways to student success.

*“The size of the university
and the deep caring and commitment
of the faculty and administration
ensured that anyone could have access to a
wide variety of experiences
and opportunities.”*



Graceland prepares students for success in today's global economy, and Zana Zeqiri Rudi is no exception.

Zana graduated from Graceland University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts Honors degree in international studies and three minors; Spanish, history and political science. She had no idea at the time how important that Spanish minor would become.

Zana grew up in Kosovo and felt getting a U.S. education was very important. "I wanted a liberal arts school where I could take classes ranging from political science to acting; a school where I could receive a well-rounded education." The Graceland President at that time, Ambassador John Menzies, had established a program for Kosovo students to come to Graceland on a full scholarship. Zana eagerly applied and was thrilled to be offered the opportunity.

Zana now credits Graceland with a large part of her success. "... And not just Graceland as an institution," she explains. "It was also my relationships with professors and with people in the Lamoni community – they were so supportive. The entire town was supportive! It is a special place."

She speaks highly of professors Barb Mesle and Brian White, who took extra time to help and nurture her. The extra attention she received at Graceland did the trick, and when she applied to Harvard Kennedy School she was prepared. Zana was accepted solely on her writing ability. "As an international student I wasn't able to interview. The (admissions) decision was based only on my file. It's the writing, the critical thinking and those personal relationships that I made at Graceland that prepared me."

After graduating from GU, Zana felt she was equipped for anything, and wasn't afraid to try new things. She even earned the lead in an improv theatre project! "Graceland provided a great foundation. I learned how to learn." Graceland helped me open up; to ask questions I thought I couldn't ask." The courage she gained from

these experiences was invaluable.

In November, Zana went to Panama to open Kosovo's Embassy. She currently serves as the Chief of Kosovo's Mission to Panama where her Spanish minor has been put to good use.

For Zana, as for many Graceland graduates, it goes beyond the academic success. "At Graceland, I made the best friends of my life and we still keep in contact. The alumni network is something else – more than other schools – and it's getting bigger and bigger." The skills she learned and the support she felt have helped her to want to pass it on. "I try to help others – Graceland taught me that. I try to pass on the good that people at Graceland did for me."





“ Graceland provided a great foundation.

I learned how to learn.

*Graceland helped me open up;
to ask questions I thought I couldn't ask.”*

“Graceland provided me with the knowledge and skills to work in extremely diverse environments, I just couldn’t have done it without the stellar education that I received.”

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When Carmen Fisher '02 returned from deployment as a corpsman in the United States Navy, she knew she wanted to enhance and incorporate the impressive skills she had already learned.

Fisher began to research nursing programs, and soon there was one school that she kept hearing about. She notes, "I asked a lot of people about the best place to start my nursing career, and I kept hearing 'Graceland,' and it was always at the top of the list."

After doing her own research, Carmen found that Graceland's reputation and high standards would be the perfect fit. Initially, as a non-traditional student, Carmen had a difficult time. Not only had she just returned from the Navy, but she also had a son and family that depended on her. However, she soon discovered one of the most prized aspects of Graceland: the dedicated faculty. "It was a difficult time for me, but the professors were great; they really helped me. There were times when I doubted my decision and myself, but the professors were so encouraging," explained Carmen.

Since graduation, Carmen has only continued to succeed. Claudia Horton, the Dean of the School of Nursing at Graceland, says "Carmen was very excited and determined as a student. She feels very confident in her job now, and that is a result of her education." After Graceland, Carmen worked on a cardiac unit and in an occupational health setting prior to her career as a nurse officer within the United States Public Health Service, under the United States Surgeon General

serving in a dual capacity. On a day-to-day basis, Carmen is a federal investigator for the United States Food and Drug Administration, however, during domestic and international health crises, she is a uniformed nurse officer, in which she deploys to areas of need. She explains "We work towards the promotion and advancement of the health of people, with agencies located under the Health and Human Services umbrella."

With the recent Ebola outbreaks, there is a critical need for nurses of Carmen's caliber. Within the past couple of months, she has been chosen as one of 40 nurses to staff the only United States-run Ebola Treatment Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia. In mid December, she set out to put her knowledge and skills to work for the betterment of the world. "Graceland provided me with the knowledge and skills to work in extremely diverse environments. I just couldn't have done it without the stellar education that I received," Carmen continues. "If I had to recommend a school to anyone, it would be Graceland. I love it!"

Academic Programs available through the School of Nursing

BSN-RN		RN-BSN		RN-MSN		MSN-FNP		MSN-NE
Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner		Post-Master's Nurse Educator						
Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice		BA in Healthcare Management						

TOP TEN RANKINGS

Graceland University's online master's programs continue their success with top 10 rankings by U.S. News & World Report.



President Sellars praised the nursing and education faculty and staff noting, "It is no easy task to be recognized in the top 20 of anything in higher education, given there are so many colleges and universities. They are to be commended for their effort and competence."

Online education plays an increasingly important role in higher education. Graceland is meeting the challenge by consistently providing academic excellence.

Images from





The Fabulous Morticians made a triumphant return to the Graceland stage for Homecoming.

To listen to this historic band, visit thefabulousmorticians.com



Cal Closson, Kathy Ross, John Sellars, Carol Hough and Kevin Barth

Graceland Alumni Association awards presented at the 15th Annual Alumni Emeriti Awards Banquet at Homecoming 2014

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Kevin Barth

The Graceland Distinguished Service Award recognizes achievement in a chosen field; service to community, state and nation; good citizenship; humanitarian service; and contribution to society. Graceland is pleased to honor Kevin Barth with this elite award!

For over 25 years, Kevin has been the President and COO of Commerce Bank, the largest bank in the Kansas City region, and the Executive Vice President of Commercial Line Business (Commerce Bancshares Inc.). Kevin was born and raised in Lamoni, and proudly credits much of his success to the small town and Graceland values.

GRACELAND AWARD OF RECOGNITION

Cal Closson

The Graceland Award of Recognition salutes those who have made special contributions of time, talent, resources and personal sacrifices to benefit the university. In recognition of his efforts to further Graceland's mission, Cal Closson was awarded this prestigious honor.

Cal follows in the footsteps of grandparents Gene and Judy Closson, whose contribution to Graceland athletics put their names on the Closson Center. Cal is on the Enactus Advisory Board and is an active member of the GU Alumni Board. He chairs the very productive Alumni Recruiting Representative committee.

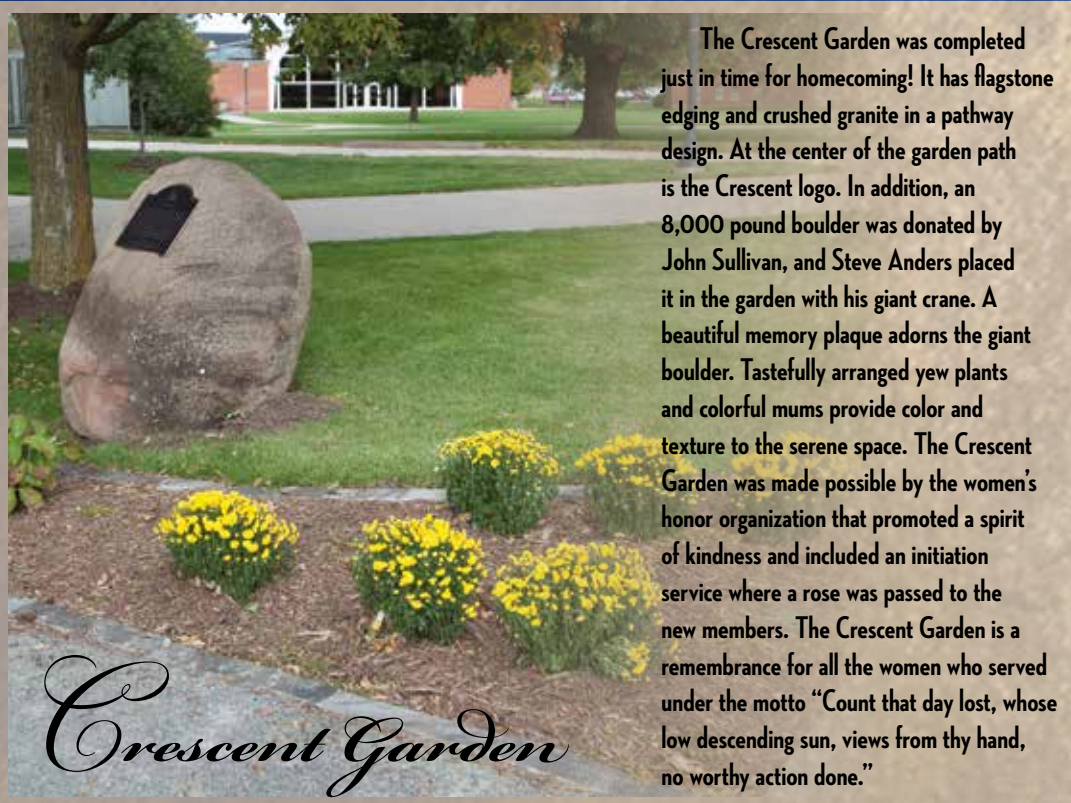
HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD

Kathy Ross

Graceland is both thrilled and honored to invite Kathy to become a Yellowjacket as an Honorary Alumna. Kathy grew up in the Community of Christ and remembers singing "Graceland Forever" during church services. Kathy says she loved the days spent attending Congregational Leaders Workshops, living in the residence halls and enjoying meals in the Commons. Graceland thanks Kathy, her husband Joel, and the rest of the extended Ross family for their gift to the Resch Center remodeling in honor of parents, Vicki and Don Ross. They also supported a special project to increase internet speed and wireless access, improving Graceland's Information Technology Services. In addition, Kathy hosted a Graceland student in their home while he completed a summer internship at Joel's company.

Carol Hough

Carol Pergler Hough, first lady to former President Frank Hough, became a leader in education at the local and state level. She worked on the Lamoni School Board, serving as its chair for four years. Hough was elected a district representative of the Iowa Association of School Boards and then to Iowa's FINE (First In the Nation in Education) Board. She also served on the board of the Iowa Children and Family Services. For her contribution to Graceland, to the community and to the state, Graceland is proud to claim Carol Hough as one of our own – an Honorary Alumna.



The Crescent Garden was completed just in time for homecoming! It has flagstone edging and crushed granite in a pathway design. At the center of the garden path is the Crescent logo. In addition, an 8,000 pound boulder was donated by John Sullivan, and Steve Anders placed it in the garden with his giant crane. A beautiful memory plaque adorns the giant boulder. Tastefully arranged yew plants and colorful mums provide color and texture to the serene space. The Crescent Garden was made possible by the women's honor organization that promoted a spirit of kindness and included an initiation service where a rose was passed to the new members. The Crescent Garden is a remembrance for all the women who served under the motto "Count that day lost, whose low descending sun, views from thy hand, no worthy action done."

Crescent Garden

Wireless Network Upgrades at GU

The fast-paced world of technology has a simple truth: you change or you die. Graceland is alive with members of the mobile generation who have grown up with computers in their pockets. In the last decade we've come to expect Wi-Fi pretty much everywhere. It's not quite as ordinary as running water, but it comes close.

Information Technology Services (ITS) has worked hard to bring GU networks up to snuff. For the third summer in a row, substantial additions were made to the wireless access due to generous donations of the Ross family. Lamoni's rural location limits our students' connectivity and entertainment options. Last summer, ITS increased the reach of network adding wireless in new buildings. This summer, they've added coverage and density.

There are 22 new access points on campus and some of the replaced devices have been moved to new locations. Most people spend very little time thinking about what goes into the wireless we use. It is ironic, then, that wireless networks require so many wires. A complex system of cables and switches, totally invisible to the casual observer, are hidden in closets or are running through basement access ways.

Students have always been the main focus of GU's wireless network. ITS has recently installed Apple TVs in nearly every classroom on Lamoni's campus, and has placed digital signage across campus including movable stands that connect wirelessly. Using their new Sting accounts, students are able to share files via the cloud, and can work collaboratively on assignments wirelessly. They are now able to print directly from their own device to Graceland printers over the wireless network. The recent improvements allow for more reliable integration of streaming videos and other media within classes.

The Gleazer School of Education's GUniverse project is on the exciting forefront of wireless use in the classroom. Each education student uses an iPad in all of their education courses. Special focus on the wireless network in Zimmermann Hall (where the education classes are typically housed) proves the needed backbone for this use.

Graceland's new Sting accounts also offer students and employees Microsoft Office 365 accounts, including: an email account students can use past their time at Graceland, large 1 Terabyte OneDrive cloud storage for files that they can access from anywhere with internet access, the power of SharePoint Online for online collaboration and file sharing, and free copies of Microsoft Office to download on up to five computers and five mobile devices for as long as they are students at Graceland.

If you wish to support technology at Graceland, please consider making a donation to Information Technology Services. You can make a difference.

~Jim Collins

Graceland students are
better prepared for success
with the newest upgrades in
Information Technology Services.

Summer Term 2016 opens opportunities for

Graceland University Board of Trustees endorsed the faculty's decision to align the academic calendars of Graceland's two campuses, effective with the 2015-16 academic year. The new alignment shifts the three-week winter term, during which students have experienced service and study abroad opportunities, to the summer.

Building on the amazing experiences winter term has offered since 1971, Graceland's revamped summer term will allow GU to offer more opportunities to even more students. Board Chair, Harry Ashenhurst said, "The board and administration recognize the many aspects and memorable experiences of Winter Term. We are committed to fostering those innovative learning practices that have transformed so many students' lives. In the future, the institution will deliberately collaborate to focus on active learning in and out of the classroom, all year round." President Sellars added, "This change will

better integrate the two campuses and will enable Graceland to offer even more robust service and study abroad experiences."

Beginning next year, Graceland faculty will offer several expanded study abroad and travel experiences. A student success committee is working on developing ways wherein all students, regardless of socio-economic background, will be able to travel for GU classes and internships. Some of that effort includes securing possible grant funding from various foundations and donors for high impact practices such as travel experiences, internships and service learning.

England

Dunfield House in England has been reserved from May 9 – 30, 2016 for Graceland students. There are multiple faculty designing new courses for this travel experience. Since the Dunfield House can accommodate over 100 visitors, a large group of students participating in different courses will be able to travel. Currently, the potential developing courses include: Drawing and European Art, Theatre in England (Stratford and London), English Literature, Teacher Internships and Florence Nightingale; Nursing Clinical.



Travel

Jamaica

Education majors will have internships in Falmouth at the Public Infancy School and the Falmouth All Age School. This program has been successful for several years and will continue as a service learning course that is open to any Graceland student. Students work in the schools doing such things as mending fences, repairing playground equipment, building desks, painting, cleaning, etc.

Fiji and New Zealand

Education majors have the opportunity to study abroad with a student teaching

experience for six weeks in Fiji or New Zealand. Graceland partners with the International School Suva in Fiji, and with Globalinks in New Zealand.

Zambia

Students from Enactus and the Gleazer School of Education have participated in coursework and internships in this country the past few years. Enactus students have partnered with HealthEd Connect for six years. This summer will be the second year education students are traveling to Zambia for internships in the schools through the HealthEd Connect partnership.

The Community of Christ in Europe is providing additional information on properties in the Netherlands, Spain and Germany. Graceland faculty will begin to develop additional travel experiences in these locations. Summer 2016 will open new opportunities for GU internships and classes!



YELLOWJACKETS END THE SEASON WITH SUCCESS



In their last football game, Yellowjackets scorched the snow with **30 unanswered points** in the second half to overcome the Evangel Crusaders and **secure their first season above .500 since 2007.**

Snowy conditions in Lamoni made for a cold, sloppy and wild game that produced four interceptions and nine fumbles. The slick conditions seemed fated to doom the Jackets as the Crusaders scored 20 points in the first half and held the Jackets at zero.

Graceland left its struggles in the locker room, however, and came out swinging in the second half. Cody Thornton struck first with a 37-yard field goal at the 6:42 mark in the third quarter, hitting his spot despite very challenging field conditions. Myles King and Raysean Brown connected once again on a 26-yard pass for a score just three minutes later to cut the deficit in half.

The Yellowjacket defense froze the Crusaders. Dileel Bartley's goal line touchdown run put GU in striking distance as the fourth quarter opened to cap off a 10-play, 58-yard drive, bringing the score to 20-17.

Bartley put the finishing touch on the game with a 14-yard touchdown run with fewer than 90 seconds left in the game. A long Evangel drive on their final possession never threatened the GU end zone, as the Graceland defense rode down their opponents into the snowy turf as the clock ran to zero.

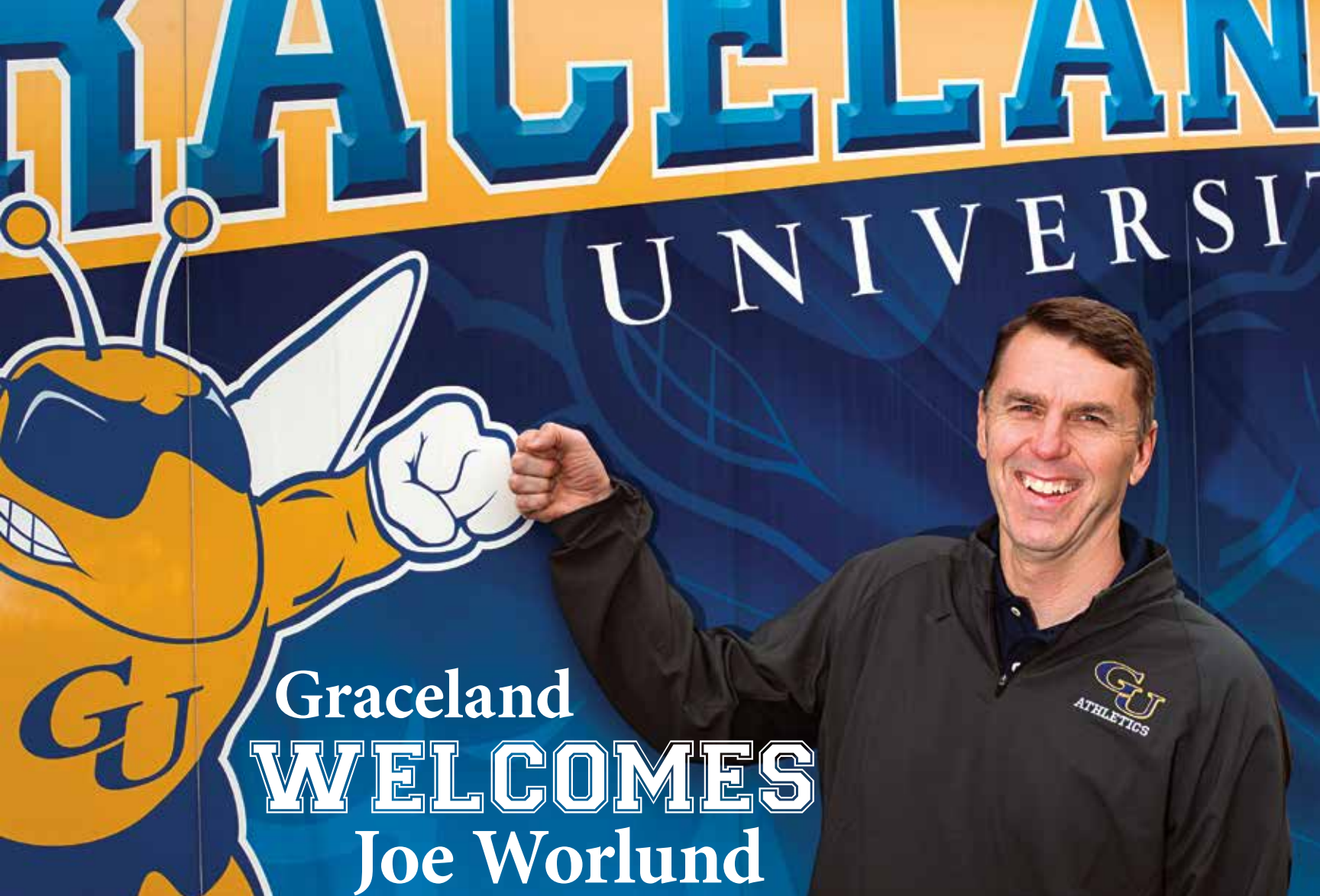
This final game of the season was memorable with the snow falling and Graceland's football team coming out on top.

The Graceland women's volleyball team had one of the best seasons in recent history with **a record of 25-8 overall** and 6-3 in the Heart of America Athletic Conference. The Jackets highlighted the season with wins over nonconference rival Grand View University, and HAAC foes Baker University and MidAmerica Nazarene University.

GU defeated Grand View early in the season 3-1 when the Vikings were ranked at No. 10 in the nation. The Jackets went on and downed the Wildcats from Baker University on Oct. 7 in a thrilling 3-2 victory. Graceland's win against Baker marked its first victory over the Wildcats since Sept. 25, 2007. On Oct. 21, GU grabbed a win over the undefeated, conference leaders with a 3-2 victory. The Jackets had been seeking revenge on the Pioneers for five years as Graceland last defeated MidAmerica Nazarene on Oct. 20, 2009, in a similar 3-2 victory.

GU received the No. 3 seed going into the Heart of America Athletic Conference tournament and defeated the No. 6-seeded Benedictine College Ravens, 3-0. The Jackets moved on to the semi-final round and took on the No. 2-seeded Evangel University Crusaders and ended the 2014 season with a 3-0 loss.





Joe Worlund '80 was named the Graceland University Athletic Director on Oct. 31. Joe has more than 32 years of experience in athletics, and most recently held the Associate Director of Athletics position at Washington University in St. Louis. His wife, Pam (Freeman '81) Worlund, is from Lamoni and the two are excited about coming home to "the Hill."

"Joe brings a wealth of experience working with athletes and coaches. Graceland is fortunate to have his insight and fresh perspective to lead our athletic department," noted VP of Enrollment, Kirk Bjorland.

"Pam and I are really excited for this unique opportunity, after 34 years away from Graceland, to come full circle," added Worlund. "This is one of those occasions when you have to leave 'home' to go 'home.'"

Joe was a four-year letter winner in baseball for the Yellowjackets as an undergraduate, and was selected as the team's Most Valuable Player as a senior. Worlund earned his bachelor's degree in recreation and outdoor education from Graceland in 1980. He earned a master's degree in recreation education from the

University of Iowa in 1982.

In addition to Washington University administration, Worlund spent 12 seasons as an assistant volleyball coach including seven NCAA Division III national championships. The program produced eight NCAA Division III Players

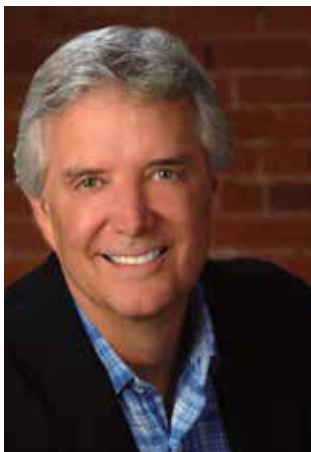
chair this season and the interim chair for the 2012-13 season.

Worlund stated, "I enjoy working with student athletes, on and off the field. It has been my life calling and I think I can make a difference for Graceland. Being able to work with Matt Shelton as Associate

"This is one of those occasions when you have to leave 'home' to go 'home.'"

of the Year and 36 All-Americans during Worlund's tenure. Worlund also received University Athletic Association (UAA) Coaching Staff of the Year honors 10 times. Most recently, he spent three years on the NCAA Division III Women's Golf Committee, serving as the committee

Athletic Director has been a blessing. His recent experience at Graceland has been invaluable, and it is amazing how well our personalities and philosophies have meshed. It is exciting to think about the positive change we can bring to the future of Graceland University athletics."



From the Board of Trustees Chair

Graceland Celebrates Success


A primary focus of this issue of *Horizons* is celebrating Graceland's talented alumni. Over the decades, Graceland has created a learning culture where our graduates have grown into holistic thinkers, decision makers and successful world citizens. But what does this really mean?

To be successful in whomever we choose to be requires a number of things. The guiding values we choose to live by inform how we will think, learn and make decisions in life. It is a learning process on how to be true to ourselves and the world in which we live. In this way, meaning comes from making choices in life that can provide us joy and happiness, and positively impact those around us. These are not easy things to be and do, but living in a community that provides support and learning resources to actively engage in these life challenges is important.

Graceland provides this kind of exploring, learning environment.

Graceland was a starting point for me to learn how to think and evaluate life critically, and try to make good decisions. We all must search to find a successful path in life where we live with meaning and impact the world in a positive way. For so many of our alumni, Graceland was the start of this lifelong journey of learning and being. I believe when we continuously learn about ourselves and what we value, along with people and the surrounding world, we will be successful in our chosen path of life.

It is important to remember success is not just measured with external markers often set by our culture and where we live. Success is finding an ultimate meaning in life, and living out that meaning in the context of friends, family, a community and the world. The beauty of Graceland University is it can play a crucial role in helping young people search for and find meaning and success in life. Our alumni impact the world in so many positive ways. Let's celebrate their success!


Harry Ashenhurst, PhD
Board of Trustees Chair

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

Performing Arts Series

Peking Acrobats

Since their debut in 1986, they have pushed the envelope of human possibility with juggling dexterity and balancing feats. A performance by the Peking Acrobats brings with it the opportunity to view the epitome of a rich and ancient folk art tradition, highlighted by today's technology melding the traditional with the modern wonders of the 21st century.

FEB
15
2015
2:30
p.m.



FEB
27
2015
7:30
p.m.

Caladh Nua

Caladh Nua is a tightly-knit and talented quintet with their origins rooted in the southern counties of Ireland. Comprised of five musicians and singers playing a variety of instruments the band has captured the qualities of traditional Irish music and balanced them with a contemporary style.

To Kill a Mockingbird

A sleepy, southern town confronts difference and justice through the eyes of six-year-old Scout as she lives through the joys of childhood innocence and the pains of growing up. Based on Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, National Players is proud to stage this tale for the first time in its 65-year history.

APR
1
2015
7:30
p.m.



Advance event tickets available online now at www.graceland.edu/ShawTickets

Event tickets are available through the Shaw Ticket Office 30 days prior to the event. Call 641-784-5296.

The Whittemore Legacy Continues

Nadine Carr went to Graceland in 1934 and received her AA degree and a teaching certificate in 1936. She was introduced to her roommate's brother, Leslie Whittemore, during their trip to Idaho and Yellowstone.

Leslie and Nadine were married, made their home in Idaho and had five children when Leslie signed up to serve in the war. Nadine moved the family to Iowa where she could get help from grandparents. The couple believed that education was very important. When Leslie came back from the war they moved to Denver and he went to school studying accounting. The sacrifices made were tremendous, but they held the belief that the doorway to a better life was through higher education. It was an investment in the future, a legacy that they wanted to pass to their children. The Whittemores had eight children and all eight attended Graceland!

"It was in the genes.

*We always knew
that we would go
to Graceland to get
a degree."*

~Dan Whittemore '61

Nadine felt strongly about sending her children to Graceland and knew that the "Graceland Experience" was worth the sacrifice. Graceland provided a strong foundation. She wanted her children to continue as lifelong learners following in her footsteps. Nadine and Leslie set an example, teaching in the strongest possible way, by making education paramount in their own lives. This family legacy continues with the commitments they've made to Graceland, helping to ensure that students for generations to come will have the opportunity to attend Graceland. The Nadine M. and Leslie E. Whittemore Endowed Scholarship assisted nine Graceland students this year. The Whittemore legacy continues!



Nadine and Leslie Whittemore

Class Notes

The 1940s

Bob Laudie '40 received a Fed Ex from the French Consulate in December. He is now a Knight with the French Legion of Honor Medal. Napoleon started the awards and a few are given each year to living WWI or II veterans who fought on or above French soil.

The 1950s

Diana Guthrie '53 was nominated by her peers, in recognition of her expertise in caring for patients with diabetes, into the Kansas State Nurses Association Hall of Fame in October 2014. Diana credits her success to her time at Graceland and her association with Velma Ruch.

David Johnson '53 was a high school teacher in Tacoma, Washington, for 40 years and recently wrote *From Jews to Christians in Ancient America*, published in 2014 by Classic Day Publishing in Seattle.

The 1960s

Jim D. Feagins '65 was honored by the Missouri Archaeological Society (MAS) with the Hamilton Distinguished Service Award. This is the highest award the society gives to professional archaeologists. Feagins had two careers – teaching science for 30 years, and then retiring to become an archaeologist. He is President Emeritus for the MAS and continues to serve on the board of trustees.

Mary Jean Jeanae '65 authored a picture book called *When Everyone Said, "Thank You"* in 2012.

The 1980s

Keith Harder '86 has been elected into the Hall of Fame for the Missouri Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. He has been voted MTCCCA Coach of the Year five times, and voted the Missouri State AP Coach of the Year twice.

Karen McLean '87 Hager graduated from the Noyce Leadership Institute (NLI) in April 2014. Karen is the only representative from the Ontario Science Centre to have ever been accepted into the program, and only the fourth Canadian. She is currently Director of the Science Engagement for

We want your class notes!

Submission Guidelines

► Upcoming Deadline

Spring 2015: April 2015 (publication month: June 2015)
Fall 2015: July 2015 (publication month: September 2015)

► How to Submit Class Notes

Email: Email your notes to alumni@graceland.edu
(Subject line: Class Notes "year")

You may mail your news to:

Class Notes
Alumni Office
1 University Place
Lamoni, IA 50140



Stay connected to the latest *Horizons* news:

Join us on Facebook.com/GracelandUniversity

& follow us on Twitter @GracelandU

the Ontario Science Centre in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The 1990s

Katie Booth '99 Heinrich received grant funding from the National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to study the effects of CrossFit versus usual Army Physical Readiness Training on body compositions and fitness improvements.

The 2000s

Deborah Arp '05 Whitis earned an MBA with accounting emphasis from William Woods University in May 2008. She became a Certified Internal Auditor in May 2009, promoted to Audit Manager with Missouri State Auditor's Office in January 2014, and became a Certified Fraud Examiner in July 2014.

Weddings

Nicholas Urbano '00 and Kristin Prince, Humble, Texas, Oct. 25, 2008.

Jared Greenberg '97 and Emily Beirnes, Port Saint Lucie, Florida, March 15, 2014.

Eric Nobel and **Michelle McAlister '03**, Flower Mound, Texas, July 27, 2014.

Kevin Williams '06 and Stephen Olson, Mentor on the Lake, Ohio, Sept. 27, 2014.

Stephanie Shaw '81 and Barbara Rocheford, Saint Paul, Minnesota, Oct. 26, 2014.

Kevin Anders '06 and Stephanie Nordyke, Los Angeles, California, Oct. 31, 2014.

Anniversaries

Dan '65 and **Sue Fisher '64** Hanton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 14, 2014.

Bruce '50 and **Collene Allen '49** Ellis celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Aug. 28, 2014.

Lewis '55 and Elizabeth **Booker** celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on Aug. 29, 2014.

W. Hale '50 and **Barbara Lee Ratcliffe '54** Collins celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Sept. 4, 2014.

Births

Trevor '06 and **Angie Blake '04** Gensler, Lees Summit, Missouri. Brody James, born Sept. 29, 2011, and Tenley Blake, born Nov. 27, 2013.

Nicholas '00 and Kristin **Urbano**, Humble, Texas. Isabel, born March 7, 2012.

April Reed '09 Chumbley, Norwalk, Iowa. Cole, born June 16, 2012.

Bryan and **Katie Booth '99** Heinrich, Manhattan, Kansas. Madilyn Mae, born July 17, 2012.

William '91 and Rachel **Harrington**, Independence, Missouri. Roman Michael, born Nov. 4, 2012.

Gayle Lundy '08 Ramaeker, Leon, Iowa. Grace, born Jan. 8, 2013.

Barnaby '07 and **Andrea Scott '07** Fletcher, Puyallup, Washington. Everest Abrams, born July 4, 2013.

Chris '03 and Bethany **Stowell**,
Flower Mound, Texas. Everett,
born Oct. 7, 2013.

Mark '07 and **Rachel Bradford '07 Tovey**,
Grain Valley, Missouri. Milly,
born April 24, 2014.

Dritan '07 and **Megan Fryer '07 Zhuja**,
Wauke, Iowa. Aurora Lucia,
born May 13, 2014.

Robert '07 and Ebony **Smead**,
Baltimore, Maryland. Robert, Jr.,
born March 29, 2014.

Nick '02 and Andrea **Uhlenhopp**, Ames,
Iowa. Laney Allyn, born May 24, 2014.

Dan and **Jennifer Everett '06** Doerfler,
Lamoni, Iowa. Kaylee Mae,
born July 1, 2014.

Aaron '06 and **Becky Jones '07 Scott**,
Des Moines, Iowa. Parker Khalil,
born July 24, 2014.

Mike and **Kendra King '06** Pugh,
Millis, Massachusetts. Joseph,
born Aug. 20, 2014.

Zeb and **Susan Porter '06** Craig,
Parkville, Missouri. Ronan Gabriel,
born Sept. 2, 2014.

Dylan '05 and Andrea **Pauli**,
Diagonal, Iowa. Owen Matthew, born
Sept. 4, 2014.

Benjy and **Kelsie Persall '07** Lewis, West
Monroe, Louisiana. Catherine RaeAnn
(Catie Rae), born Sept. 10, 2014.

Camron and **Traci Schwab '00** White,
Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Parker Allen,
born Sept. 18, 2014.

Heath '09 and **Alice Garrity '10 Brown**,
Follansbee, West Virginia. William Bret,
born Oct. 1, 2014.

In Memoriam

Lois Clough '46 Gehri,
Bedford Heights, Ohio, Feb. 9, 2009.

Berl O. Wildermuth '31,
Clinton, Wisconsin, May 14, 2009.

Doug K. Palmer '74,
Northfield, Minnesota, Nov. 23, 2009.

Alice Hall '44 Woodman,
Machias, Maine, Dec. 10, 2012.

Lois Wildermuth '33 Briggs,
Crozet, Virginia, May 20, 2013.

Bruce Garfield '54,
Sacramento, California, June 2, 2013.

Dorothy "Dottie" Beck '70,
Loveland, Colorado, Aug. 23, 2013.

Georgia Metcalf '44 Stewart,
Baltimore, Maryland, Nov. 24, 2013.

A. Ray Kilpatrick '41,
Culver City, California, Nov. 26, 2013.

William R. Armstrong '49,
Milford, Michigan, April 21, 2014.

Gloria Metcalf '60 Hanaway,
Blue Springs, Missouri, May 3, 2014.

Samuel A. Anderson '48,
Crestview, Florida, May 18, 2014.

William H. Perry '73,
Dallas, Texas, July 12, 2014.

William W. Brown '54,
Independence, Missouri, Aug. 11, 2014.

Gayla Cease '63 McEldery,
Chesterfield, Michigan, Aug. 17, 2014.

Joan Hammer '49 Paulich,
Kansas City, Missouri, Aug. 17, 2014.

Frances Ultican '47 Wiese,
Vacaville, California, Aug. 17, 2014.

Robert "Bob" Omer,
Lamoni, Iowa, Aug. 25, 2014.

George A. Tenos '52,
Saint Johns, Florida, Aug. 25, 2014.

R. Jack Mercer '43,
Ontario, California, Aug. 26, 2014.

Mildred C. Simerley '43,
Searcy, Arkansas, Aug. 26, 2014.

Deannelle Holt '83 Sheppard,
Bartlesville, Oklahoma, Aug. 27, 2014.

Donald H. Parkes '42,
Overland Park, Kansas, Aug. 30, 2014.

James F. Wheeler '52,
Knox, Indiana, Sept. 7, 2014.

F. Charles Persall '80,
Lamoni, Iowa, Sept. 8, 2014.

Brian J. Boger '07,
Lamoni, Iowa, Sept. 14, 2014.

Mary Gunderson '50 Cash,
Independence, Missouri, Sept. 15, 2014.

Barb J. Hutton,
Mount Ayr, Iowa, Sept. 18, 2014.

Edith A. Gallaheer '05,
Yorktown, Virginia, Sept. 21, 2014.

Lorna Cable '41 Simmons,
Independence, Missouri, Sept. 21, 2014.

Rosalie Grim '44 Talley,
Frontenac, Kansas, Oct. 2, 2014.

Henry Clayton '43,
North Liberty, Iowa, Oct. 14, 2014.

Eric J. White '95,
Portland, Oregon, Oct. 14, 2014.

Lucille Hartshorn '44 Cole,
Independence, Missouri, Oct. 17, 2014.

Karen Hentz '56 Willard,
San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 20, 2014.

Ralph A. Bobbitt,
Independence, Missouri, Oct. 22, 2014.

Sherry Ewbank '75,
Billings, Odessa, Missouri, Oct. 23, 2014.

Myrna Lawson '58 Lowenthal,
Fallon, Nevada, Oct. 28, 2014.

Jeanne Engel '55 Rossman,
Owosso, Michigan, Nov. 2, 2014.

Robert J. Kozuki '52, Honolulu, Hawaii,
Nov. 4, 2014. Retired from the Army as
a Lt. Colonel after spending 20 years as
a mental health worker. Later, worked at
Western State Hospital as the Director of
Social Services for nearly 20 years. He and
his wife Mazie retired to Hawaii in 2000.
Bob is survived by his wife, Mazie, and
his brother Eugene (Judy) Kozuki of
Des Moines, Iowa.

Mark A. Stanke '84,
Lees Summit, Missouri, Dec. 19, 2014.

Norma Gaskill '45 Travis,
Independence, Missouri, Dec. 23, 2014.

Marian Hidy '53 Cawley,
Grain Valley, Missouri, Dec. 26, 2014.

Terry Collins '83 Kinney,
Independence, Missouri, Jan. 3, 2015.

Alumni Endowed Scholarship

Apply for scholarships NOW! Students planning to attend Graceland University in the fall of 2015 are encouraged to apply for the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Awards. All direct descendants of Graceland alumni are eligible. Contact the alumni programs office at 641-784-5250 or access the information and application form on the website at www.graceland.edu/alumnischolarship. The deadline for applying is March 1, 2015 so please act fast. The average annual award is in the \$1,000 range and is renewable for up to four years.

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Images from
THE HOLY LAND
Alumni & Friends Trip 2015
**JANUARY
12 – 21, 2015**



Graceland alumni and friends, 44 strong, led by Graceland University President John Sellars and wife, Bette, and Dean of Students, Dave Schaal, and wife, Michelle, spent winter term exploring the Holy Land. The group has enjoyed the opportunity to share in this experience with two Graceland leaders as they trekked through stops where Jesus was born, provided ministry and died.

Thanks to all who have kept us in their prayers through our journey and we hope the next time Graceland alumni and friends head out the door for another great adventure that you will be able to go along for the ride.

*Paul J. Davis '77
Alumni Programs Director*

